

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 70 NEW JOBS FOR ROCKINGHAM COUNTY
One N.C. Fund Helps Ameri-Kart Corp. Expand and Invest \$2 million in the Area

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that Ameri-Kart Corp. will expand its manufacturing facility near Reidsville, creating 70 new jobs and investing \$2 million in the area. The expansion was made possible in part by a \$67,800 grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

“Ameri-Kart’s decision to expand their facility in Rockingham County is a tremendous win for the company, the community and the state,” said Easley. “This announcement is further proof that our investments in education, infrastructure and workforce development are paying off.”

Indiana-based Ameri-Kart is a subsidiary of Myers Industries, which had net sales of \$661 million in 2003. Ameri-Kart, which has plants in Indiana, Kansas, Ohio, Michigan and North Carolina, manufactures an extensive range of custom-molded plastic products including trash collection carts, dashboards, fenders and storage tanks. The Rockingham County plant, formerly owned by Diakon Molding, currently employs 99 people who earn an average of \$400 per week plus benefits. The new workers will earn similar wages.

An increase in business is driving the expansion, which will primarily consist of adding new equipment and machinery. Company President Eric Gottuso said the business considered other locations before deciding to expand at the North Carolina site. “Rockingham County proved to be an ideal location because of the skilled workforce and pro-growth government at all levels,” said Gottuso.

The One North Carolina Fund helps the state recruit and expand quality jobs by providing financial assistance to businesses or industries deemed by the governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. Through use of this Fund, more than 13,000 jobs and more than \$1.7 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

Other contributors that made this announcement possible include the N.C. Department of Commerce, Rockingham County and Duke Power.

For more information about Ameri-Kart or possible job opportunities, visit www.myersind.com/kart.html.

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